

August 24, 1949.

Dear Bernie-

I don't know ~~what~~ whether it will be of any use to you or not, but I'm sending a culture of W-1104 which we recently isolated. This grows rapidly on ϕ al + tyro + trypt, but after 48 hours also shows good growth on ϕ al + trypt, or on ϕ al + tyro, and a faint growth on ϕ -al alone. The wild type from which it came, W-1113, is not influenced by any of these compounds. W-1113 is a new isolate from chickens, being tested for recombination.

When you get back to NY, I wonder if you could do me the favor of sending a few double mutants, preferably amino acid requirements, of your old coli strain, to use as part of our survey for recombination. It just might recombine with other strains, although not within itself.

We had a very good time with Gordon Allen, and I really envy you the privilege of having him working in your laboratory. I think he has a very sound idea for his research, especially with the clarification of meningococcus nutrition in the paper by Scherp & Fitting in the June J. Bact. As we discuss I also think that drug resistances might be useful characters. There may be only an offhand chance of being able to demonstrate recombination, but the overall mathematical expectation is good.

Best regards,

Joshua Lederberg